

Additions to the Higher Flora of Wake Island
Pacific Plant Studies 30

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Wake Island is a dryish atoll in the north Pacific Ocean, recently exploited as an air base. Its flora has been recorded by Fosberg and Sachet (1969).

David Court-Smith of the British Royal Air Force spent a year on Wake, returning in July 1976. While there he took color photos of nearly every higher plant known to be there. The writer identified the species shown in the pictures, and on this basis can record the following additional species.

Adventive Weeds

Bidens pilosa L., var. minor (Bl.) Sherff, photo 26.

Tridax procumbens L. Except certain grasses, the commonest plant on the atoll, photo 25.

Cultivated Ornamentals

Asplenium nidus L., photo 71.

Phymatodes scolopendria (Burm.) Ching, photos 70, 72.

Araucaria sp., photo 51.

Crinum amabile Donn, photo 54.

Crinum asiaticum L., photo 52.

Erythrina variegata Stickm., var. orientalis (L.) Merr., photo 64.

Pedilanthus bracteatus (Jacq.) Boiss. in A. DC., photo 60.

Hibiscus tiliaceus L., photo 62.

Opuntia sp., photos 52, 57.

Calotropis gigantea (L.) R. Br. in Ait., photo 66.

Literature Cited

Fosberg, F. R. & M.-H. Sachet, 1969. Wake Island Vegetation and Flora. Atoll Res. Bull. 123: 1-15.